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compensation for loss of life or limb by railway or other accidents, assurance of defective and unmarketable titles of property, of fidelity, against commercial failures, against damage to goods by railway, river, or other modes of conveyance, and, in fact, the equalization of losses in all kinds of property where the averages can be ascertained, are surely worthy of every encouragement in a commercial country like this, and a great benefit in addition to life, fire, and marine assurance, which up to a recent period were all we could boast of. This little book contains many valuable suggestions, and furnishes more matter for reflection on all these subjects than from its simple and unpretending character the reader would expect.

Report on the Mortality of Cholera in England in 1848-49.

THIS very remarkable work is the result of the labours of Mr. Farr, to whom the preparation of the report was confided by the Registrar-General. The Registrar-General was requested, in 1850, by the General Board of Health, to make out a "return of all cases of cholera that occurred in England and Wales, distinguishing sex and age." After well considering the subject, he thought it desirable, not only for the use of the General Board of Health, but for circulation throughout the country, that a complete history of the late epidemic should be drawn up from the facts recorded in the register-books of deaths, distinguishing not only sex and age, but also the profession, the date of death, the place of death, and the duration of illness of all persons who died of cholera or diarrhoea in the years 1848 and 1849; giving not only the bare facts, but exhibiting in tables the various combinations of age, profession, locality, &c. We need hardly say that such a task, entrusted to the well-known abilities and earnestness of purpose of Mr. Farr, has resulted in the most complete report that could be compiled on the subject. It is far too important to be hastily dismissed, and we reserve the further consideration of it to a future Number.

Works recently published :—

- Life Assurance: its Schemes, its Difficulties, and its Abuses. London: Pateman, 1852.
- Letter to the Right Hon. J. W. Henley, M.P., President of the Board of Trade, regarding Life Assurance Institutions, &c. By Robert Christie, Esq. Edinburgh: Thomas Constable & Co. London: Hamilton, Adams, & Co.
- On the present Position of the Life Assurance Interests of Great Britain: A Letter to the Right Hon. J. W. Henley, M.P., President of the Board of Trade. By William Thomas Thomson, F.R.S.E., &c. &c. Wm. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London.
- De l'Organisation des Sociétés de Prévoyance, et des bases scientifiques sur lesquelles elles doivent être établies. Par M. G. Hubbard. 8vo. Paris: Guillaumin, 1852.
- Our Navigation and Mercantile Marine Laws, considered with a view to their general Revision and Consolidation; also an Inquiry into the principal Maritime Institutions. By W. S. Lindsay. London: Longman, Brown, Green, & Longmans, 1852.
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